WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. \A terminal apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving a data group or a program group distributed from a satellite or a ground distribution system; and

an update sequence management unit for searching data or a program of the terminal apparatus to be updated and data or a program necessary for updating the data or the program of the terminal apparatus, from the data group or the program group, determining an update sequence of the searched program or data, and updating the program or data of the terminal apparatus in accordance with the determined update sequence.

- 2. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said update sequence management unit forms an installation sequence table in accordance with a distribution software list, the distribution software list describing therein a software name of a program or data of the distributed data group or program group, and compatible software necessary for operation of the program or data, and the installation sequence table describing therein the program or data of the terminal apparatus to be updated, software necessary in a chain manner for updating the program or data, and the update sequence of the software.
- 3. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a software temporary storage unit

for storing software before update and a software recovery unit for recovering a state of the software before update of the terminal apparatus in accordance with an operation check result of the software after update.

- 4. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an operation check unit for checking an operation of the software after update and a terminal side transmitting unit for transmitting an operation check result.
- 5. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reception unit receives information distributed along a zenith direction.
- A vehicle information terminal for automatically updating application software, map data or system software of the vehicle information terminal, by using the terminal apparatus recited in claim 1.
- 7. A software update system comprising:

a station for distributing a data group or a program group for a terminal apparatus by using a broadcasting system or a distribution system; and

the terminal apparatus for automatically updating a data group or a program group of the terminal apparatus by using the data group or program group distributed from the station,

wherein said station distributes a distribution software list describing therein a name of a program or data of the program group or data group to

be distributed, a name of compatible software necessary for operation of a program or data of the program group or data group, a name of a program or data of the program group or data group before update, and a name of a program or data of the program group or data group after update.

- 8. A software update system according to claim
 7, wherein said station includes a reception unit for
 receiving update contents of software for said terminal
 apparatus transmitted therefrom, and an update contents
 management unit for managing the update contents of the
 software for said terminal apparatus.
- 9. A software update system according to claim
 7, wherein said station further includes a distribution
 unit for distributing software to said terminal
 apparatus along a zenith direction.
- 10. A software update system according to claim 7, wherein map information, navigation software, or system software of a vehicle information terminal is updated.